

forming multilamellar liposome products having an average diameter of less than about 1000 nm.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein the multilamellar liposome products are formed by carrying out a lyophilization step.

17. The method of claim 15 wherein the liposomes obtained in step (b) have an average diameter of less than about 300 nm.

18. The method according to claim 17 wherein the liposomes are obtained in step (b) by extrusion.

19. The method according to claim 15 wherein the multilamellar liposome products have an average diameter of less than about 800 nm.

20. The method according to claim 15 wherein the multilamellar liposome products have an average diameter of less than about 300 nm.

21. The method according to any one of claims 15 through 20 wherein the water soluble polymer is PEG.

22. The method of claim 15 wherein the amphipathic compound in a biologically active conformation is characterized as having one or more α -or π -helical domains.

23. The method of claim 15 wherein the biologically active amphipathic compound is a member of the vasoactive intestinal peptide (VIP)/growth hormone releasing factor (GRF) family of peptides.

24. The method of claim 15 wherein the peptide is VIP.

25. An echogenic liposome diagnostic product manufactured by the method according to any one of claims 15 through 24.

26. A diagnostic method comprising the steps of:
preparing a multilamellar liposome product comprising a biologically active amphipathic compound in association with a liposome according to the method of claim 15 through 24;

administering a diagnostically effective amount of said multilamellar liposome product to a target tissue; and